UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO WEST DIVISION AT CINCINNATI		
TEDDY NICHOLS	)	Case No. C-1-02-0045
Plaintiff,	)	Judge Beckwith
v.	) )	
INDIANA MICHIGAN POWER CO.	)	
RIVER TRANSPORTATION DIVISION	)	
and/or AMERICAN ELECTRIC FUEL	)	
SUPPLY, RIVER TRANSPORTATION	)	
DIVISION	)	

# ANSWER OF DEFENDANTS TO THIRD AMENDED COMPLAINT

#### FIRST DEFENSE

Comes now Defendants, Indiana Michigan Power Co., incorrectly denominated as River Transportation Division and American Electric Fuel Supply, River Transportation Division, and for its Answer to Plaintiff's Third Amended Complaint, state as follows:

- Defendant denies, each and every allegation set forth in paragraph 1 of Plaintiff's
   Third Amended Complaint.
- Defendant denies, for want of knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief,
   each and every allegation set forth in paragraph 2 of Plaintiff's Third Amended Complaint.
- Defendant denies, for want of knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief,
   each and every allegation in paragraph 3 of Plaintiff's Third Amended Complaint.
- 4. Defendant denies, for want of knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief, each and every allegation set forth in paragraph 4 of Plaintiff's Third Amended Complaint.
  - 5. Defendant denies each and every allegation set forth in paragraph 5 of Plaintiff's

Third Amended Complaint.

- Defendant denies each and every allegation set forth in paragraph 6 of Plaintiff's 6. Third Amended Complaint.
- 7. Defendant incorporates by reference, reaffirms and restates each and every response to the foregoing paragraphs as if fully set forth herein in response to paragraph 7 of Plaintiff's Third Amended Complaint.
- Defendant denies each and every allegation set forth in paragraph 8 of Plaintiff's 8. Third Amended Complaint.
- 9. Defendant denies each and every allegation set forth in paragraph 9 of Plaintiff's Third Amended Complaint.
- Defendant denies each and every allegation set forth in paragraph 10 of Plaintiff's 10. Third Amended Complaint.
- Defendant denies each and every additional allegation set forth in Plaintiff's Third 11. Amended Complaint save those herein specifically admitted as true.

# SECOND DEFENSE

12. Plaintiff's Third Amended Complaint, in whole or in part, fails to state a claim upon which relief may be based.

# THIRD DEFENSE

13. Plaintiff's damages, if any, were caused by the negligence of Plaintiff and/or the negligence of some other person or entity for which Defendant is not liable.

#### **FOURTH DEFENSE**

Plaintiff's damages, if any, were caused by an unforeseeable, superceding and/or 14.

intervening cause for which these Defendant is not liable.

# **FIFTH DEFENSE**

15. Plaintiff has failed to mitigate damages.

#### SIXTH DEFENSE

16. Plaintiff's Third Amended Complaint is barred by lack of personal jurisdiction over Defendant.

# SEVENTH DEFENSE

17. Defendant asserts venue is not proper in this Court.

#### EIGHTH DEFENSE

18. Defendant gives notice that they intend to rely upon each and every affirmative defense and avoidance available to it and reserves the right to amend this Answer during the course of discovery should additional affirmative defenses become relevant.

#### **NINTH DEFENSE**

19. The claims set forth in Plaintiff's Third Amended Complaint are barred by the relevant Statute of Limitations and/or the Doctrine of Laches

WHEREFORE, having fully answered, Defendant prays that Plaintiff's Third Amended Complaint be dismissed and that Plaintiff takes nothing thereby.

Respectfully submitted,

ss/Todd M. Powers

Todd M. Powers, Esq. (0027122) SCHROEDER, MAUNDRELL, BARBIERE & POWERS 11935 Mason Road Suite 110 Cincinnati, OH 45249-3703

(513) 583-4212 (telephone)

(513) 583-4203 (facsimile)

**Attorney for Defendants** 

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and accurate copy of the foregoing was served upon the following this 13th day of January, 2004:

Gary Wm. Baun, Esq. Kirk Karamanian, Esq. 401 S. Old Woodward, Suite 320 Birmingham, MI 48009 Attorneys for Plaintiff

ss/ Todd M. Powers
Todd M. Powers